Shortage of Petrol and Diesel in Uttaranchal

†1485. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact there was shortage of petrol and diesel due to transporters strike in Uttaranchal and whether movement of more than 700 tankers supplying petroleum products has been stopped;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to make any alternative arrangements to prevent adverse effect on availability of petrol and diesel in the State; and

(c) if so, the scheme adopted to ask the transporters to call off strike with the details therof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) A strike was called by local Transporters of Uttaranchal in 1st week of October, 2003. However, alternate arrangement was immediately made by oil industry with the help of transporters from outside the State of Uttaranchal to ensure uninterrupted supplies of Petrol and Diesel in the State of Uttaranchal.

(c) In line with the agreement signed between transporters and Oil Industry to call off strike, Oil Industry have agreed to appoint an arbitrator on request of transporters.

Allotment of LPG Dealership to Kargil Martyrs in U.P.

†1486. DR. AKHTAR HASAN RIZVI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether LPG dealership has been allotted to the families of Kargil martyrs;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of families which have been allotted LPG dealership in Uttar Pradesh, so far?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) to (c) The Government has formulated a scheme for allotment of retail outlet dealerships (petrol pumps), LPG distributorships and SKO -LDO dealerships to the dependents/next of kin of the defence personnel killed in action in 'Operation Vijay' (Kargil). Under this scheme, the number of persons who have been allotted LPG distributorships in the State of Uttar Pradesh as on 1.11.2003 was 30.

Impact of Global Oil Prices on Kerosene and LPG Prices

1487. SHRI ABHAY KANT PRASAD: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether Government have reduced the prices of petrol and diesel taking advantage of fall in global oil prices while increasing the excise duties on these items to about three times of the original;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) The impact of fall in global oil prices on the prices of kerosene and LPG?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) With the dismantling of Administered Pricing Mechanism (APM) effective 1.4.02, the oil marketing companies (OMCs) are fixing the selling prices of petrol and diesel themselves based on market considerations including changes in international prices. As regards , excise duties on petrol and diesel, the same have not been revised by the Government after 1.3.2003.

(c) As per the Government decision on dismantling of APM, the subsidy of PDS Kerosene and Domestic LPG is to be on flat rate basis and after a ccounting for the same, the OMCs could vary the retail selling prices in line with the variations in the international prices of these products.

PDS Kerosene and Domestic LPG are domestic fuels of mass consumption. Post AMP, the average international prices of these products have remained quite high. Passing of higher international prices